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SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fifth year

Letter dated 8 February 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my letter dated 3 January 2000, I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the flight information region (FIR) of Nicosia and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 6, 17, 18 and 26 January 2000.

On 6 January, one (1) C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations. The aircraft in question violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before exiting in a south-easterly direction. Early that afternoon, the same aircraft once more violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia, before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On 17 January, one (1) C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations. The aircraft in question violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before exiting in a south-easterly direction. Early that afternoon, the same aircraft once more violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia, before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On 18 January, four (4) F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations, before exiting in a westerly direction.

On 26 January, one (1) F-4, one (1) C-160 and one Turkish military aircraft of unknown type entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations. The F-4 and the C-160 violated the national airspace of the

Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before exiting in a south-easterly direction. Early that afternoon, the same aircraft once more violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia, before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

While strongly protesting these actions, which violate international law, as well as the Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, and calling for their cessation, I would like to express the hope that the necessary positive attitude will be shown by Turkey, so that the efforts for finding a just and viable solution of the Cyprus problem, on the basis of United Nations resolutions, will not be adversely affected.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 63, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sotos ZACKHEOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative